

Reviews of New Books

MIRRORES OF WASHINGTON. Anonymous. Cartoons by Cesare. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

It looks as if the family named Anonymous has gone into trade. Certain it is that two of its members, at least, have taken to the looking-glass industry. One of these, a few months ago, piled the new experiment in Downing street. And, more recently still, another one has been operating in Washington. It is a catchy calling. It looks to be an easy one. Just to flash a mirror here and there is no great strain. Provided, it strikes a personage of general interest it is bound to make something of a hit. Whether or not the mirror be a true medium of reflection is not vital. It must be great fun and reading folks are not keenly critical. This particular set of mirrors—these so recently working in Washington—caught, certainly, the most interesting people that are just now in close touch with the capital. First, there is the President, then Mr. Wilson, the Secretary of State and Mr. Hoover, Senator Lodge and Elihu Root, the ambassador to the court of St. James, Col. House, Mr. Baruch, Lansing, Knox, Penrose, Borah and Hiram Johnson. Most appealing personages, these. Good reading. Clever writing, save for spots of ramshackle English. These mirrors, one discovers by summing their register, possess the curious quality of specializing on flaws and imperfections—some common defect in the glass, one judges.

OUR FAMILY AFFAIRS, 1847-1898. By E. F. Benson, author of "Dodo," etc. New York: George H. Doran Company.

Many elements combine here to make this looking-backward by E. F. Benson a notable event as well as a most enjoyable one. His family—father and sons—is a distinguished one, rooted and grounded in the excellencies of English custom and tradition. He himself is a well known

novelist, with that remarkable story, "Dodo," as his first considerable offering to fiction. His lines have fallen on pleasant places, both in his home and in the larger circle of English culture and achievement. These elements weave together in this book as a suave and inviting background against which many a one about whom the world is generally curious is sketched in genial and penetrating lines of portrayal and interpretation. Royal folks are seen here at short range. Queen Victoria among them. Famous statesmen, writers, scientists, artists, musicians and actors congregate here in pleasing intimacy. The author's own travels—to Italy, to Greece, to Egypt and elsewhere—give special appeal to this book of many memories. The seasoned and quiet manner of the man himself is a joy. The full picture of England itself in the second half of the last century co-ordinates with a competent hand the culture and the inspiration of that period.

GREEN APPLE HARVEST. By Sheila Kaye-Smith, author of "Tamarisk Town," etc. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

A story of Sussex. That is, it is a story to the extent that it, within a definite period of time, follows the affairs of a family of that corner of England, using a single member of the family as the radiating center of action. Upon its surface this is the story of Bob Fuller, a keen and rowdy in his youth, fanatical preacher in

his converted manhood, pitiful picture of defeat and failure in his death. In its undercurrents of significance, however, this is the story of the soil of Sussex that, for centuries, has gone into the making of its men, shaping their daily lives, setting the pattern of their thoughts, tingling their religious fervor with Puritanic austerities. Worked out with an infinite patience of detail, with a rigid adherence to the facts in this particular combination of man and his mother earth, without a single discernible leaning toward the popular taste in reading, the story partakes strikingly of Thomas Hardy's novels of local England. A marked distinction of insight and expressive power places this writer in a class by herself among recent novelists. Not a popular writer, she will never be that. For the exclusive and appreciative reader, however, Sheila Kaye-Smith is a rich discovery.

LIFE AND LETTERS. By J. C. Squire, author of "Steps to Parnassus," etc. New York: George H. Doran Company.

A group of stimulating essays, chiefly literary in their foundations, and critical in their outlook. From Anatole France and Walt Whitman back to Dr. Johnson and still further back to the renaissance spirit of Rabelais, these essays range with many an interesting point of personality or situation in between. So much at home in literature is this writer that he wears the everyday clothes of speech, sits down at ease with this and that one

of the writing brotherhood, has it out with them on many a disputed point of letters, turns musty rules of criticism into fresh guides of literary behavior and, generally, acts like him self, and not like a machine, in his zealous consideration of the drifts and trends of literature, of the values of individual writers. These essays are a part of their author's weekly contribution to periodicals. That they have been put into the permanence of book form is worth a good deal to the reader of critical mind.

THE STORY OF CHAUTAUQUA. By Jesse Lyman Hurlbut, D. D., author of "The Story of the Bible," etc. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

This is the complete story of Chautauqua, founded almost half a century ago by Lewis Miller and John H. Vincent. An introductory chapter describes the character and inspiration of these two founders of the institution, lays down the principles upon which it was based and makes a picture of the locality in which Chautauqua had its start. From here on the story is that of the growth of this institution to its present status as one of the great educational forces of the United States. Its work is given in good detail. The celebrated contributors to its success are named and the quality of their service summarized. The branches that have sprung from the original institution are placed and examined in their development. The future of Chautauqua is outlined. The whole story is told in informal and genial fashion, with touches of

humor at one point and another. The volume contains what there is to know both about the original Chautauqua and about the many branches to which it has given rise.

PADDY: The Next Best Thing. By Gertrude Page, author of "Love in the Wilderness," etc. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.

The "next best thing" to being the boy that was desired in her place accounts for the naming of Miss Paddy in this romance of youth. Both nature and clear intent on her own part join hands to make of Paddy that combination of activity, curiosity, daring, mischief and ingenuity that figures under the name of boy. Daily adventures by the dozen, talk of the endless and spontaneous variety and impulses of generous and kindly sort mark the growth of Paddy from little girl to young woman, with her own wedding just around the corner of the completed story. Youth and gaiety form the keynote of the little romance that has already made its bow upon the stage in a general atmosphere of approval and delight.

TRYING IT ON THE DOG. By Maurice Switzer, author of "Letters of a Self-Made Failure," etc. Illustrations by Frank Godwin. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company.

The art of publicity, the business of advertising, is moved over here into the field of romance. A brisk, light-stepping novel, with the last word in publicity methods as its motive power, invites one here to follow along with

the triumphs of a young man who, let out from a back-number concern, builds up a successful business, first in dog soap, then in man soap, to the complete discomfiture of the house that failed to recognize his genius in advertising. The story, however, is not all soap, nor all business. Time and opportunity are seized for the encouragement of two romances and the fulfillment of a double wedding. Acceptable material goes into this energetic to-do of legitimate business.

(Continued on Seventh Page.)

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" 4 " Coupe	3890	3390	2890
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C-48 7-pass. Touring	\$3190	\$2990	\$2090
" " Sedan	4790	4590	3490
" " Limousine-Sedan	4890	4690	3690